

**Gelinas, John**

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**From:** Gelinas, John  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2006 15:39  
**To:** \*All Fire Employees  
**Cc:** \*All ECC Employees  
**Subject:** Company Journal - Issue 38



## ***The Company Journal*** ***and "The Feederline"***

***Fire Department News***  
***Cambridge, Massachusetts***

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*From the desk of*  
**Chief Gerald R. Reardon**

*Issue #38*  
**Thursday, 13 April 2006**

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***All Companies Working***



Rescue 1 making up after the fire on First Street  
**FF/PM Chris Haynes, FF Fran Gallagher, and FF/PM Nicole Zedalis**



Rescue Company #1, Group 1: **FF/PM Nicole Zedalis, FF Fred Ikels, FF Al Coipel, and FF/PM Michael Donovan.**



Fire companies working at a motor vehicle accident in Porter Square where an SUV crashed into a building.



**FF Al Coipel overhauling**



**FF/PM Nicole Zedalis**

*- photos above by **FF Fred Ikels** (Rescue 1)*



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### Somerville Second Alarm

The members of **Engine Company #5** and **Division #1** (group 2) operated at this recent Second Alarm fire on Pennsylvania Avenue in Somerville. The fire was in a 2 1/2 story, wood-frame, OMD, with extension to the Bravo exposure, a similar building. From left to right, **F.Capt. Mark Cunningham**, **DFC Lester Bokuniewicz**, **FF Bill McGovern**, **FF Howie Conrad**, **FFOP/PM Nathan Jarvi**, and **FF Bob Walsh**.



- photo above by Tara Bithia

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### What's New

On Friday, 13 Jan 2006, the "**Badge Pinning**" ceremony was held at city hall for all members appointed or promoted within 2005. City officials and family members participated. During the ceremony, **Firefighter Fred Sage** (Technical Services), **Fire Captain Greg Carter** (Squad 4), and **Fire Apparatus Mechanic Steve Lopez** (Tech Services) received the **Barron Family Award** from **Mr. Carl Barron**. This award is given to department members who have demonstrated administrative excellence while carrying out their assigned duties.

The photos below are some of the many photos taken by F.Lt. Brian Higgins (FIU.) Other photos will be available shortly in the photo gallery on the CFD website.



**Mr. Carl Barron, Chief of Department Gerry Reardon, and FF Fred Sage**



Newly sworn-in officers.



**FFOPs Robert Crooker** (Engine 6), **Nathan Jarvi** (Engine 5), and **Brian Peebles** (Engine 2)



Families and Friends





**DFC John Cotter and family**



**F.Capt. Greg Carter, family, and friends**



**Chief Reardon, F.Capt. Paul Sheehan and wife**

- photos above by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins, FIU**

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to **Elisa Camara** on the celebration of her 100th birthday. Elisa is the grandmother of **Melinda Camara** (Headquarters Administration.)

### **New Arrivals**

Congratulations to **F.Lt. Chris Melendy** (Truck 1, group 2) and wife, **Catherine Melendy**, on the birth of **Mia Rose Melendy**. Mia Rose was born on 16 February 2006 at 1430 hours. She weighed in at 7 pounds 4 ounces and was 18 inches long. Mia joins sisters, **Hannah** and **Leanne** as the newest member of the Melendy family.

Also congrats to **FF Simon Camelo** (Engine 3, group 3) and wife, **Linda**, on the birth of **Caitlyn Camelo** on 3 August 2006. Caitlyn was born at 0830 hours and weighed 8.5 pounds. She was 20 inches long. Caitlyn joins siblings, **Jonathan** and **Courtney** as the newest member of the Camelo family.

### **Retirements**

#### **Firefighter Allen M. Gaudet**

Per G.O. #6 of 2006, effective March 9, 2006, at 1900 Hours, **Firefighter Allen M. Gaudet** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Gaudet was appointed on April 6, 1986 and assigned to Training. His other assignments were as follows:

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| • May 8, 1986        | Engine Company #4 |
| • August 9, 1986     | Engine Company #2 |
| • May 13, 1990       | Ladder Company #3 |
| • April 30, 1995     | Engine Company #6 |
| • December 1, 1996   | Engine Company #9 |
| • September 26, 2004 | Headquarters      |



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## Fire Lieutenant Lawrence J. Sheehan

Per G.O. #2 of 2006, effective January 31, 2006, at 1900 Hours, **Fire Lieutenant Lawrence J. Sheehan** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Lieutenant Sheehan was appointed on June 6, 1965 and assigned to the Reserve List. His other assignments were as follows:

- January 9, 1966            Ladder Company No. 3
  - January 12, 1975        Aerial Tower No. 1
  - May 25, 1980            Acting Lieutenant Engine Company No. 8
  - July 6, 1980            Promoted to Fire Lieutenant Engine Company No. 8
  - January 2, 1983        Ladder Company No. 3
  - June 27, 1993          Ladder Company No. 2
  - April 30, 2000          Engine Company No. 9
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## Transfers and Assignments

Per G.O. NO. 08, Series of 2006, the following transfers and assignments are effective Sunday, 23 April 2006 at 0700 hours:

F.F. Robert F. Mahoney from Division No.2 to Ladder Company No.4  
 F.F. Craig W. Yearwood from Ladder Company No.1 to Division 2, Group 1  
 F.F. John J. Kenney from Engine Company No.2 to Engine Company No.4  
 F.F. Simon Camelo from Engine Company No.3 to Engine Company No.9  
 F.F. Andrew M. Hepner from Engine Company No.3 to Engine Company No.9  
 FF Kevin B. Conroy from Engine Company No. 9 to Engine Company No. 2  
 F.F. David M. Croak from Engine Company No.1 to Rescue Company No.1  
 F.F. Gary J. Gannon from Engine Company No.9 to Rescue Company No.1  
 F.F. Bryan J. Trelegan from Ladder Company No.4 to Engine Company No.9

F.F.O.P. Justin C. Cully to Engine Company No.8  
 F.F.O.P. Kenneth E. Cunningham to Ladder Company No.1  
 F.F.O.P. Mark E. Davis to Engine Company No.1  
 F.F.O.P. Charles L. Donnelly, Jr. to Engine Company No.8  
 F.F.O.P. Peter J. Mahoney to Ladder Company No.2  
 F.F.O.P. Kevin P. Mercer to Engine Company No.6  
 F.F.O.P. Clemente J. Pinto to Engine Company No.3  
 F.F.O.P. David J. Puopolo II to Engine Company No.3  
 F.F.O.P. Michael R. Travers, Jr. to Engine Company No.2  
 F.F.O.P. Edrice Vincent to Ladder Company No.4

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## Fire Academy Graduation

Ten Cambridge FFOPs graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Recruit Training Program on Friday, 31 March 2006. After three additional weeks of in-house training by the CFD Training Division, these FFOPs will report to their assigned companies on 23 April. Welcome Aboard to these new firefighters.



- photo by Tara Bithia

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### **Signal 10-15**

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter David G. Fraser** of Engine Company #8, retired. Firefighter Fraser was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 9 March 1958 and assigned to Engine Company #2. His other assignments were as follows:

- 10 September 1961      Ladder Company #3
- 18 July 1982            Engine Company #8

Firefighter Fraser retired on 27 October 1983. He was born on 12 May 1927 and was a United States Navy veteran of World War II. He died on 25 March 2006.

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The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter William J. Cochran** of Engine Company #6. Firefighter Cochran was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 16 January 1977 and assigned to Recruit Firefighter Training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. His other assignments were as follow:

- 13 March 1977           Engine Company #3
- 12 February 1978       Rescue Company #1
- 15 April 1979           Engine Company #7
- 16 November 1980      Engine Company #2
- 2 January 1983          Engine Company #6
- 9 November 1986       Engine Company #1

■ 13 May 1990 Engine Company #6

Firefighter Cochran was born on 26 January 1949 and was an active member of Engine Company #6. He was a United States Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War.



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### **Out and About**

Photos below: As part of the daily drill, the members of **Engine 1, Ladder 1, and Rescue 1** (group 1) practice their firefighter rescue skills.

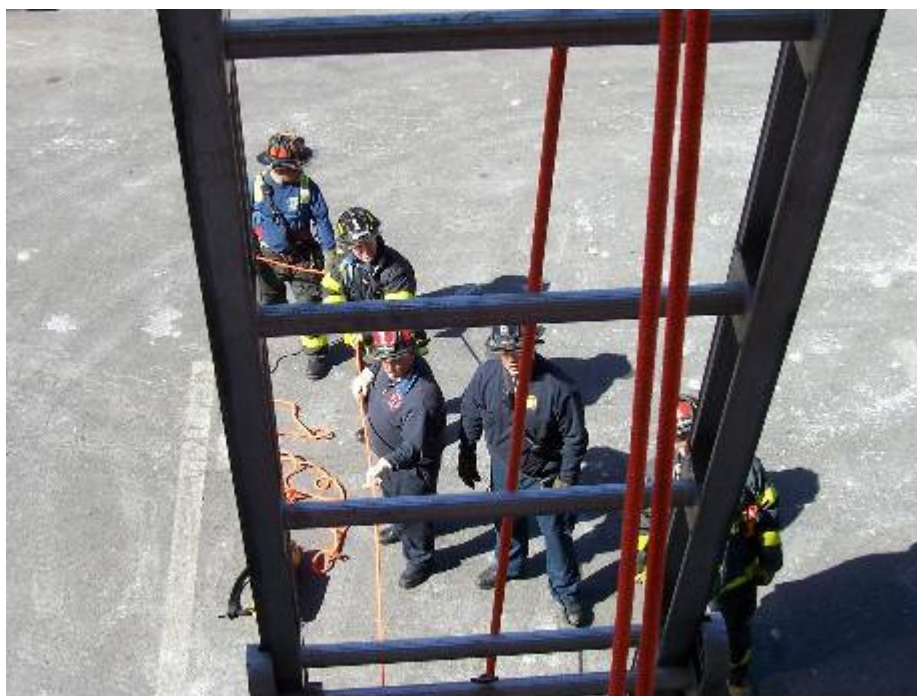


















- photos above by Tara Bithia

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**From the Archives**





**FF Donald Gonsalo's last tour at Engine Company #9:  
FF Donald "Speedy" Gonsalo, F.Lt. Bob Cauchon, FF Fred Ikels, FF Bill Sullivan, and FF Lenny Delaney.**



**Engine 9, group 1 in April of 1984: F.Lt. Jim Harkins, FF Donald Gonsalo, FF Francis Dudley, and FF Paul Monahan.**

*- photos above from the collection of **DFC Ralph Chapman** - retired*



**Have things really changed that much? - Photos from Fowler's Files**



*Fire and date unknown:* Engine 7 members in the foreground, from left to right, **FF Robert Young**, **FF Leon De Martin**, and **F.Lt. John Healey** (all of Engine Company #7.) In the background are **Chiefs Andrew Murphy** (Division) and **William Cremins** (Chief of Department.) At the cab of Aerial Tower #1 are **F.Lt. Joe Schifferdecker** and **FF John Riley** (Aerial Tower 1.)



*Fire and date unknown:* Engine 7's Wagon operating the deck gun. Shown standing on the ground is **FF Jesse Andrews** (Engine 2); standing on the deck of the apparatus are **FF Anthony Iantosca** (in leather helmet) and **F.F Michael Papsedero ?** (in plastic

helmet.)



The **Cornerstone Baptist Church** fire at Massachusetts Av. and Cogswell Av., 3 alarms in the early morning hours of 1 November 1979.



"Tally-Ho" fire on Massachusetts Avenue in Central Square - 1960s?

There were two separate fires in this block, one a long-duration, 5-engine working fire and the other 3-alarms. **Chief William Sullivan** was the IC for one and **Chief William Cremins** was the IC for the other. One of the fires originated in the cellar and extended up into the cockloft. The initial alarm was a walk-in Citizen Alarm to the quarters of Engine 2 and Truck 3. Starting in a hairdresser, hair-care, and wig shop in this taxpayer. The fire had been set.

- photos above by **Edward Fowler**

## Letters

March 21, 2006

Cambridge Fire Department  
491 Broadway  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Cambridge Fire Department,

Thank you very much to the captain and firefighters who came to our building this evening to check on a puddle of gasoline in the basement. I am very grateful for your expertise, attention, and courtesy. We in Cambridge are certainly fortunate to have such an outstanding fire department.

Sincerely,

Mary Hoffman  
Granville Road  
Cambridge, MA 02138

*Editor's note: Engine 9, Truck 4, and Division 2 operated at the above "Level 0" incident at 2326 hours on 21 March 2006, Incident # 008611. Operating members included: F.Capt. Mark Cunningham, FF Gary Nangle, FF Kevin Conroy, F.Capt. Robert Blake, FF Alan Johnson, FF Dennis Maragioglio, and FF John Shinkwin*



under command of **DFC Francis Murphy**. Group 4 was on duty.

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March 26, 2006

To Engine 6, Squad 2,

Thanks. My family and I are so grateful for the assistance you provided in continuing CPR and then getting my brother, Tom O'Rourke, to the hospital on Sunday, March 12. We are a very close family and so appreciative of your assistance in saving Tom's life.

Bernadette O'Rourke Leahy.

*Editor's note: Engine 6, Squad 2, and Boston EMS operated at this incident on Memorial Drive at Magazine Street at 0923 hours on 12 March 2006, Incident # 008321. Members included **F.Lt./PM Philip Arsenault**, **FF/PM Paul Morrison**, **F.Lt. Michael Clinton**, **FFs George Cotter**, and **FF Francis Mullen**. Group 2 was on duty.*

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## **Safety**

**Wear your seat belt!**

This is not only a safe practice, it may save your life and it is the mandatory policy of the Fire Department.

According to **IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger**, as reported in the **International Firefighter** of Jan/Feb 2006, "Every firefighter must take personal responsibility for their safety, and also watch out for and stop any unsafe actions. We must eliminate the tendency to operate fire apparatus in a reckless manner under the guise of emergency response. Sometimes, practicing safer driving tactics and wearing seatbelts are enough to prevent injury or death."

**Also keep your SCBA waist strap fastened!**

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## **Condolences**

- Condolences to **FF David Croak** (Engine 1, Group 1) on the death of his grandmother, **Mary Benoit**.
  - Condolences also to **Cammie Fournier** (Headquarters Administrative staff) and **FF Tom Higgins** (Engine 8, group 4) on the death of their mother, **Camela "Camille" Higgins**. Mrs Higgins is the wife of **FF Frank Hggins** (Engine 8, retired) and the grandmother of **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU.) Our condolences are extended to all these members
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## **Verses of love to hero father**

*"The Last Alarm," a poem written and read by **Angela Meyran**, 11, daughter of FDNY **Lt. Curtis Meyran**, who was killed in a Bronx fire a year ago.*

*My father was a firefighter  
 He rode in a big red truck  
 And when he'd go to work each night  
 He'd say, "Mom, wish me luck"  
 And Dad would not come home again till sometimes the next day  
 A fireman's life is easy  
 He eats and sleeps and plays  
 And sometimes he [doesn't] fight fires for days and days and days  
 When I first heard these comments, I was too young to understand  
 Because I knew when the people had trouble, Dad was there to lend a hand  
 And my father went to work one day and he kissed us all goodbye  
 Little did we know that next morning we'd all cry  
 My father gave his life that next day when the fire got too hot  
 And we wondered why he'd risk his life for someone he didn't know  
 But now I realize the greatest gift a man can give is to lay down his life down upon the line so that someone else might live  
 So as we go on from day to day and we pray to God above, say a prayer for your brothers. They may save your loved ones.*

Originally published on January 24, 2006

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### **Stats and Fires**

During the month of **February, 2006**, **Engine 2** was the busiest company with **203 runs**. Engine 1 finished with 147 and Engine 3 with 128 runs. **Truck 3** finished the month with 140 runs, Truck 4 with 127 runs, and Truck 1 with 125. **Rescue 1** finished the month with **145 runs**. **Division 1**, the busier division, finished with a total of **125 runs**, while Division 2 responded to 100 incidents. **Squads 2 and 4** completed November with **199 and 154 runs** respectively. There were 884 emergency incidents during the month, which generated 2228 emergency responses. There were 10 building fires, 40 inside fires, and 44 fires of all categories.

During the month of **March, 2006**, Lafayette Square **Squad 2** was the busiest company with **252 runs**. **Engine 2 finished with 230**, Engine 5 with 155, and Engine 1 with 153. **Truck 1** finished the month with 158 runs and Truck 3 made 148 runs. **Rescue 1** finished the month with **152 runs**. **Division 1** finished with a total of **149 runs**, while Division 2 responded to 100 incidents. **Squads 2 and 4** completed December with **252 and 143 runs** respectively. There were 963 emergency incidents during the month, which generated 2415 emergency responses. There were 10 building fires, 41 inside fires, and 53 fires of all categories.

### **Rekindling the Flame**

According to a "Sexiest Jobs 2006" survey conducted by AOL .com (America online) and Salary.com, **Firefighter** was tied with CEO for first place as the Sexiest Job. Further down the list were pilot, doctor, flight attendant, police officer, event planner, interior designer, military personnel, and nurse.

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### **Retirees**

Join the **Retired Firefighters Breakfast Club**. The club meets at 0730 hours on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at Andy's Diner (across from Engine 4's house) in North Cambridge. Call John O'Donoghue at 781-483-9217 or e-mail him at [jod3502@aol.com](mailto:jod3502@aol.com) for more information. All retired members are welcome. Stay in touch. Have breakfast with good company.

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### **Mark Your Calendar - Upcoming Events:**

**Medal Day and Swearing-In**

Cambridge Firefighters Medal Day will be held on 6 May 2006 at 1000 hours. The official swearing-in of the 10 FFOPs will also take place at this ceremony. The exact location will be announced.

**Firefighters Memorial Sunday**

**Firefighters Memorial Sunday** will be 11 June 2005. All members, families, and friends are encouraged to attend. Group will form at 0930 hours at the main gate to the Cambridge Cemetery for a short march to the Firefighters Memorial.

**Father Dan Mahoney Golden Jubilee**

**Father Dan Mahoney**, the Cambridge and Boston Fire Department Catholic Chaplain, will celebrate his jubilee mass on Sunday, 30 April 2006 at Saint Francis de Sales Church on Bunker Hill Street in Charlestown. Mass is at 1100 hours. Shuttle buses will be running from the parking lot by the 99 Restaurant to the church. All members are invited to attend. Uniform of the day will be Class A.

**Spike Lawless Retirement**

The Retirement Testimonial for FF John "Spike" Lawless will be held at the Montvale Plaza, 54 Montvale Avenue, Stoneham on 17 May 2006. Cocktails will be at 1800 with dinner at 1900 hours. Tickets are \$25. For tickets, contact Brad Tenney at Ladder 4, group 2 (617-930-8833) or John Shinkwin, Division 2, group 4 (617-875-9986.) Tickets are \$25.

**IFBA Convention**

The annual convention of **The International Fire Buffs Association** will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts in **August of 2007**. The convention site will be the Royal Sonesta Hotel.

**Annual Firefighters Ball**

The 118th Annual Ball of the Cambridge Firemen's Relief Association will be held on Saturday, **6 May 2006** (group 3 on duty) at the Burlington Marriott Hotel. Note the new Spring date! Who knows, it might be a nice warm spring night. Full details will be available at a late date. If there are any questions, call FF Dan Maloney, Division 1, group 3 at 617-354-5666.

**Street Cleaning "Heads-Up"**

Check the street signs! City Street Cleaning started again on the 1st of April. Don't park your vehicles on the designated street-cleaning streets or they will be towed.

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**America's Heroes**

**Deputy Fire Chief Richard C. Cully**





**Deputy Fire Chief Richard C. Cully with Fire Captain Thomas A. Byrne**

*- photo by Ed Fowler*

**Richard C. Cully** was born on 29 June 1923 in Clinton, Massachusetts. His father was the chief electrician for the Wachusett Reservoir (later MDC and MWRA) in Clinton. In 1935, following the deaths of his mother and father, who both died at an early age, he was taken in by a family in Cambridge at the age of 12. He spent his teenage years in Cambridge and joined the United States Army in June of 1941.

Richard Cully went through basic training in Missouri and was then sent to Fort Monmouth New Jersey for further training. He was assigned to the 449th Signal Battalion, and was shipped overseas in the troop ship, Samuel B. Livermore. He participated in combat action in Italy, France, Belgium, and Germany.

After his return to the States, Richard Cully took the firefighter entrance examination, was successful, and was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 4 February 1951. He was assigned to Ladder Company #4 as MOP, Man on Probation. He did not waste time, studying and training diligently, and was promoted to Fire Lieutenant, pivot Ladder 4/Engine 8, on 28 May 1963. He was assigned to Engine Company #8 on 9 March 1965. Continuing his studying and reaching for his career goals, he was promoted to Fire Captain on 15 March 1967 and assigned to Engine Company #4. On 30 July 1972, he transferred to Ladder Company #3.

On 21 October 1973, Richard Cully was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief and assigned to Fire Headquarters. On 19 October 1975, he was transferred to the Training Division as chief in charge of training. On 2 December 1979, Chief Cully was assigned to the Fire Suppression Division, coverage as needed. On 10 January 1982, he was assigned to Fire Suppression, Group 4. Following a distinguished career of 32 years, Deputy Fire Chief Richard C. Cully retired on 10 July 1983. He was well respected by both the members of the Cambridge Fire Department and his colleagues throughout the state.

At the age of 80, Deputy Fire Chief Richard C. Cully died on 30 December 2003 at his retirement home in Longwood, Florida. Shortly before his death, this author spoke with Chief Cully. Chief Cully related his love for the Cambridge Fire Department and its members. Even twenty years after his retirement, Deputy Fire Chief Cully said, "I think about the Fire Department every day."

Chief Cully's son, **Rick**, is a Firefighter assigned to Engine Company #6. His grandson, **Justin Cully**, is a Firefighter on Probation, currently assigned to Recruit Firefighter Training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

- Winston Churchill



#### **Information**

Please submit any information, photographs, or narratives for inclusion the ***Company Journal***.

#### **E-mail list**

If any retirees or friends of the Cambridge Fire Department wish to be added to the ***Company Journal*** e-mail list, send us the e-mail address!

#### **Websites**

Visit the Cambridge Fire Department website at [www.Cambridgefire.org](http://www.Cambridgefire.org)

Check out Cambridge Firefighters Local 30's website at <http://www.cambridgelocal30.org/>

Visit the the Cambridge Retirement Board website at <http://www.cambridgeretirementma.gov/index.asp>

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**REMEMBER THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN OUR ARMED SERVICES THROUGHOUT  
THE WORLD. THEY ARE PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY, OUR LIBERTY, AND OUR  
FREEDOM.  
THANK OUR VETERANS!**

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**Brothers and Sisters,  
STAY BRAVE!  
STAY VIGILANT!  
STAY SAFE!**

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